

# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



Vision Statement: As vigilant quardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.

# **DATE:** November 15, 2016

(Weeks of October 29 to November 13, 2016)

This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks; however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.

# REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis

# District 1 – Sgt. T. Petreikis

(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)

CARROLL COUNTY	
Nothing reported.	
LIENDY COLINTY	
HENRY COUNTY	
Nothing reported.	

#### **JO DAVIESS**

CPO Hoogerwerf received a complaint of hunting and operating an ATV on private property without permission. Patrols on the property were conducted. A Galena man was issued citations for unlawful feeding of deer and unlawful operation of an ATV on private property without consent.

While checking a known baited deer hunting area, CPO Hoogerwerf observed an East Dubuque man throwing ears of corn in front of a deer stand he was planning to hunt during the firearm deer season. The man was issued a citation for unlawful feeding of deer.

LEE COUNTY	
Nothing reported.	

#### MERCER COUNTY

CPO Posateri and Sgt. Petreikis were working waterfowl hunters on the opening day of waterfowl season in the central zone. As the CPOs entered a duck blind, the odor of freshly burnt cannabis was lingering in the air. The out of state hunter in possession of less than 2.5 grams was issued a civil violation notice based on the new Illinois cannabis regulations.

CPO Posateri was notified by a landowner of a trespassing complaint. The landowner had trail camera pictures of the

local man trespassing with an arrow knocked. The Matherville man was identified and cited for the violation.

Cpt. Laura Petreikis responded to a complaint from a landowner. A subject who was trespassing setup in a climbing stand 50 yards from a hunter who had permission to be on the property. The subject shot an 8 pt buck right in front of the other hunter. Cpt. Petreikis apprehended the violator and attempted to locate the deer. The shot placement was poor and unfortunately the deer could not be found. The subject's hunting equipment was seized and he was issued citations for hunting without landowner permission and unlawfully attempting to take a deer. He was also issued written warnings for failure to have his hunting license, habitat stamp, and permit in possession

#### **OGLE COUNTY**

A 47 year old Stillman Valley woman was setting out food for deer. She had a deer blind 20 yards away and had not hunted over the salt lick yet. CPO Beltran made contact with her and she said it was for her horses. CPO Beltran took enforcement action and explained that the salt lick was too close to the hunting blind. The woman removed the bait.

#### **ROCK ISLAND COUNTY**

CPO Francisko has issued numerous written warnings for boating and fishing and other violations into November due to the unseasonably warm weather. Citations were issued for boating, fishing and possession of drug paraphernalia.

While patrolling rural Rock Island County, Sgt. Tony Petreikis located a truck parked on the side of the road. Checking on the occupants, Sgt. Petreikis found them to be in possession of an untagged deer. The subjects advised they were waiting until they field dressed the deer. After explaining the laws, one of the subjects was cited for their violation.

#### STEPHENSON COUNTY

A 46 year old Freeport man was posting pictures of his deer harvested on Facebook. CPO Beltran saw the deer and checked the harvest system for the mandatory report. Proper enforcement action was taken and the man assured CPO Beltran he would not make the mistake again.

A 47 year old Juda man found two bucks locked together and cut off the racks without notifying CPO Beltran. Another hunter found the deer and thought they were poached. After a short investigation and with the help of some very kind neighbors CPO Beltran was able to discover who cut off the racks. Enforcement action was taken and the violator was educated on the law regarding deer.

A 65 year old Lanark man was driving slowly down the road with no rear license plate. CPO Beltran stopped him and the man became enraged and tried to explain that he didn't have to have a license plate because it was a farm truck. The man demanded a ticket so he could go on his way. CPO Beltran issued him two warnings and asked the man not to be so angry.

## WHITESIDE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

# <u>District 6</u> – Sgt. Phil Wire

(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)

#### **BOONE COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **BUREAU COUNTY**

CPO Scott Wagner while conducting patrol of the Hennepin Canal near Bureau encountered a suspicious vehicle

with a male and a female occupant. After a brief investigation the female driver was cited for no valid insurance, no valid registration and no valid driver's license.

CPO Scott Wagner while conducting wildlife enforcement near Buda cited an individual for unlawful hunting of whitetail deer without valid hunting license.

#### **DEKALB COUNTY**

CPO Murry responded to a personal injury watercraft accident at Lake Holiday from off duty. A watercraft operator was operating after dark without any navigation lights activated, at a high rate of speed, in a no wake zone, and struck a dock and the steel supports. During the crash that boat was heavily damaged and the operator was ejected. A witness retrieved the operator from the water and called 9-1-1. The operator sustained a large laceration to his chin and was transported to Valley West Hospital in Sandwich. While speaking to him, CPO Murry observed that the operator appeared to be under the influence of alcohol. After a brief investigation the operator was arrested for OUI. He was also cited for operation of watercraft without navigation lights and careless operation of a watercraft. He refused all chemical testing and will subsequently be suspended from operating a watercraft for two years. His Illinois driver's license is already revoked due to previous DUI arrests. CPO Murry assisted CPO Jansen with the case.

#### LASALLE COUNTY

CPOs Kaufman and Stanbary responded to a 61 year old woman who had broken her ankle in Tonti Canyon of Starved Rock State Park. The woman had been walking down a path into the canyon. The path ended and she jumped 5 feet down to another path. When she landed she broke her right ankle. The officers were able to locate the woman and direct Utica EMS to their location. She was transported to Illinois Valley Community Hospital in Peru.

CPO Jansen and Kaufman responded to a missing suicidal subject at Starved Rock State Park. A juvenile male had posted a video on Snapchat that concerned his friends enough to call police. After a 45 minute search it was determined the individual had left the park and was returning home unharmed.

CPO Kaufman handled a vehicle break-in at Starved Rock State Park. A park visitor had left her purse on the passenger floorboard and went hiking. When she returned to her vehicle the passenger window had been broken and her purse was gone. A quick check on-line of her bank and credit card accounts showed her cards had been used in Ottawa. CPO Kaufman was able to get surveillance photographs of the suspect. These photographs can be seen on the Illinois Conservation Police Facebook page. The investigation is ongoing.

CPO Kaufman responded to a call of two lost hikers in Matthiessen State Park well after dark. The hikers had gotten turned around on the trails when the sun went down. CPO Kaufman was able to contact them via cell phone. Using his squad's emergency lights and siren CPO Kaufman had the hikers direct him to their location. Once they were safety in his squad one of the hikers told CPO Kaufman if he had not found them the hiker was going to call a cab. CPO Kaufman questioned the hiker how that would have worked out since there are no cab companies in the immediate area. CPO Kaufman also questioned the hiker on how they would have told the cab where to pick them up since they couldn't tell him their exact location. Both hikers were from a metro area. They didn't realize how far Starved Rock and Matthiessen State Parks were from civilization.

CPO Jansen received a complaint of a subject spotlighting wildlife from a vehicle. The vehicle was located and stopped. The spotlight was sitting on the center console and the subject admitted to shining the field after hunting. He was issued a citation for spotlighting from a vehicle.

CPOs Jansen and Filipiak discovered two hunters hunting waterfowl in a baited field. Four citations were issued.

CPOs Jansen and Filipiak conducted a traffic stop for speeding on Rte 23. During the stop they discovered 3 uncased

firearms. Citations for speeding and transportation of uncased firearms were issued.

CPO Filipiak was on a deer hunting compliance check and observed the hunter was hunting over a mineral block approximately 20 yards from his deer stand. The hunter denied knowledge of the mineral block, deer molasses, and deer. The hunter was issued two citations for: unlawfully hunting whitetail deer over bait, and unlawful take of a whitetail deer. The hunter was issued a written warning for failure to purchase a habitat stamp, and feeding of wildlife. The hunters bow and arrows have been filed for forfeiture.

CPO Filipiak was on a waterfowl hunting compliance check and observed two hunters hunting from a blind in the center of a cornfield. Upon the check, 33 ears of corn were found surrounding the waterfowl blind. Multiple piles of shucked (loose) corn was scattered within 20 ft of the waterfowl blind. The two hunters eventually admitted to bringing the corn to the field and spreading it around in an attempt to attract waterfowl. The two hunters were issued citations for: unlawfully hunting over a baited area and unlawful take of a Canada goose.

#### **PUTNAM COUNTY**

CPO Finn was called to a complaint of a coyote hunter after hours. Two hunters were encountered hunting after hours and hunting without permission. Both hunters were given a citation and a written warning.

CPO Finn while returning from a hunting complaint encountered a vehicle stopped along the roadway and found the driver and passenger to be in possession of alcohol. Both were cited for illegal transportation of alcohol.

#### WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Schoonhoven arrested an individual for taking fish under the legal size limit on the Rock River.

CPO Fraser was patrolling Rock Cut State Park after posted closing hours when he observed a vehicle driving through the park. CPO Fraser performed a traffic stop on the vehicle and intended on giving the occupants a warning since the park had just switched to shorter winter hours. Upon approaching the vehicle CPO Fraser immediately smelled marijuana and asked the driver if there was any in the vehicle, the driver said there was not. CPO Fraser conducted a search of the vehicle and located over 15 grams of marijuana and a glass pipe. The driver was given field sobriety testing and admitted to smoking marijuana a short time before driving. The driver also admitted to purchasing the marijuana with his newborn child and girlfriend in the car. The driver was arrested for DUI, drug, and park offenses and later refused chemical testing.

While patrolling an area near the Rockford Airport, CPO Fraser observed a large group of four wheelers and dirt bikes trespassing on airport property. After seeing CPO Fraser the group fled on a nearby roadway even after CPO Fraser activated his emergency lights and siren. Despite the group fleeing, CPO Fraser was able to apprehend one of the riders after his ATV died. The driver was taken to jail and faces trespass, fleeing, no insurance, operation of an ATV on a roadway, and driving while revoked charges but was able to post bond. It was later discovered by CPO Schoonhoven that the ATV was stolen. Before CPO Fraser could obtain an arrest warrant for the individual he overheard a County Deputy had the subject stopped for walking on the interstate. The subject stated he was attempting to go to Kentucky. CPO Fraser again arrested the subject who now faces additional felony possession of a stolen vehicle charges.

CPO Alt was contacted by the Winnebago County Assistant State's Attorney (A.S.A.) who was assigned to prosecute a complaint of disorderly conduct received by the Sheriff's Office which involved an Illinois Bow Fisherman on the Rock River in October. CPO Alt provided the A.S.A. appropriate conservation offense charges that could apply to this complaint to include: a violation of the Illinois Fisherman Interference Act under the Illinois Criminal Code, careless operation of watercraft and interference with navigation both found under the Illinois Boating Registration Title and Safety Act.

CPO Alt obtained one two count warrant for a suspect who committed a motor vehicle burglary in Rock Cut State Park.

CPO Alt investigated then located the motor vehicle burglary suspect who had returned to the park in October and was identified by CPO Alt via traffic stop two weeks ago. The warrant granted by the State's Attorney's office was for felony forgery and identity theft based on evidence obtained by CPO Alt. The warrant was served on the suspect in Ogle County by a local jurisdiction on 11/4/16. This same suspect is also under investigation for committing multiple motor vehicle burglaries in various state and city parks in Ogle and Winnebago Counties.

CPO Alt obtained one three count warrant for a Pecatonica suspect who unlawfully harvested two whitetail deer by aid or use of bait as a result of officer initiated scouting and soil sampling. The soil samples returned positive for sodium over 3200 times in concentration in comparison to the control sample taken on the same property. The warrant granted by the State's Attorney's office was for unlawful taking and/or possession of two whitetail deer and unlawful taking or attempting to take whitetail deer by aid or use of bait or bait of any kind. The suspect was notified by a Pecatonica Police Officer that there was a warrant of arrest out for him and the suspect turned himself over to the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department and Jail. A second hunter involved in this case and who was hunting the same baited property was cited by CPO Alt for unlawful taking or attempting to take whitetail deer by aid or use of bait or bait of any kind.

CPO Alt investigated then seized a Common Snapping Turtle and two Common Painted Turtles from a Winnebago County juvenile who unlawfully took the reptiles from the wild without a valid sport fishing license then posted them for sale on the Internet. The interview was conducted with parent presence and authorization. Both parent and juvenile signed an IDNR Abandonment Letter turning said unlawfully possessed specimens over to the department. The specimens were taken to a local area licensed fish and wildlife animal rehabilitator where they can be reintroduced to the wild in the Spring. The juvenile was educated on the provisions violated, was provided an Illinois Fishing Digest, and was issued written warnings for the offenses committed.

## <u>District 7</u>, Sgt. Scott Avery

(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)

#### **FULTON COUNTY**

CPO Reid worked an airplane detail in Fulton County.

#### **HENDERSON COUNTY**

CPO Reid conducted a waterfowl detail in Henderson County. Numerous violations were addressed.

#### **KNOX COUNTY**

CPO Lazzell is conducting an ongoing investigation in several central Illinois Counties involving multiple violations of the Illinois Timber Buyers Licensing Act.

## MARSHALL COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### McDONOUGH COUNTY

CPO Reid continues to work a deer baiting case in McDonough County.

#### PEORIA COUNTY

CPO Lazzell is working complaints of deer hunting without permission and baiting of deer on several Peoria County properties.

CPO Gerard cited a Peoria resident for unlawfully hunting deer by the use of bait. Salt blocks and bags of corn were used

to attract deer.

#### STARK COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **TAZEWELL COUNTY**

CPO VanZant received a disposition from a deer case where the subject was hunting with the landowner's deer permits and killing more than 3 bucks. The subject was found guilty and fined \$980.00

#### WARREN COUNTY

CPO Reid investigated a poaching complaint in the Monmouth area.

#### WOODFORD COUNTY

Nothing reported.

# **REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins**

## <u>District 2</u> – Sgt. Rich Riedel

(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)

#### **KANE**

CPO Siedsma and CPOT Cox arrested a subject for unlawfully hunting over bait and unlawfully taking of a deer. The subject had meat and deer parts in the back of his pick-up truck; he did not have a harvest record of a deer for the season. The subject claimed the bait was not his, but he had the same bait in the back of his truck.

CPO Siedsma and CPOT Cox received a complaint of a subject shooting at deer from a vehicle. A vehicle matching the description was found and CPO Siedsma talked to a subject driving a combine in the area. The subject had a .308 rifle with him and after an interview admitted to shooting at deer from a pickup truck. Appropriate charges were filed.

#### LAKE COUNTY

CPO VanWiltenburg found a subject in possession of a 10 inch walleye on Nippersink Lake where a 14 inch minimum size limit applies. One citation was issued.

CPO Kelley cited a Lake Villa man for fishing without a valid license on Fox Lake. The man was also issued written warnings for using untagged devices.

CPO Semenik issued a citation to an archery deer hunter hunting after hours. CPO Semenik located the hunter still in his deer stand with his arrow nocked 20 minutes past legal hunting time.

CPO Semenik issued two citations to two subjects fishing on Pistakee and Nippersink Lake for failure to immediately release short walleye. Both fish were under the 14 inch minimum.

On November 6th, CPO Semenik patrolled the Fox Chain O' Lakes and issued 7 Citations and 8 written warnings for various waterfowl hunting, boating, and fishing violations.

CPO Semenik issued a citation to a subject archery deer hunting over bait. Five days prior CPO Farber issued a citation to the man for the same violation. When responding to a complaint the man had returned, CPO Semenik made contact with the hunter leaving the woods. The hunter walked to his vehicle and when CPO Semenik began conversation, the

subject claimed he was just "filming." An empty bow case was located in the vehicle's truck and CPO Semenik later located the bow the hunter tried to hide in the woods along with a new stand the hunter had set up and baited.

#### McHENRY COUNTY

CPO Kelley issued a citation to a man for kayaking without a wearable lifejacket. The man was fishing on Lily Lake in Lakemoor. CPO Kelley also verbally warned the man about lighting requirements on non-powered vessels after sunset.

While checking an individual who was fishing at the McHenry Dam, CPO Winters and Kelley issued the subject a citation for unlawful operation of a watercraft without a wearable PFD and written warnings for not having a water usage stamp and not having a Fox Waterway sticker.

CPO Schreiber arrested a subject at Moraine Hills State Park for public indecency, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of cannabis less than 10 grams.

CPO Semenik issued a citation to a pheasant hunter at the Chain O' Lakes State Park for hunting with an unplugged shotgun.

Sgt. Riedel and CPOT Cox arrested a Spring Grove subject for attempting to take deer by the use or aid of bait. The subject had placed a pile of corn and apples, a mineral block, and deer cocaine near his tree stand.

## <u>District 3</u> – Sgt. Mark Simon

(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)

#### **GRUNDY COUNTY**

CPOs Anderson and Wollgast continue to work baited deer stands.

CPOs Anderson and Honiotes investigated a hunting without permission case, investigation ongoing.

#### KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Vadbunker was checking fishermen on the Kankakee River and found a subject fishing without a fishing license and who was also in possession of a smallmouth bass within the protected slot limit.

CPO Mieure issued a subject a written warning for hunting without permission.

CPO Vadbunker investigated 2 dumping complaints. One involved a subject who allowed his deer to hang and decompose in the warm temperatures, only then to dump it on public property. The second involved a subject who dumped a truck load of wood and debris blocking the only access to an individual's property.

CPOs Mieure and Reid conducted a night poaching enforcement detail in cooperation with two Region 3 CPOs. No activity was generated.

## KENDALL COUNTY

Nothing to report.

#### WILL COUNTY

CPO Reid cited a deer hunter for unlawfully hunting without permission of the landowner. The hunter also admitted to placing salt and mineral blocks to attract deer and did not have a required hunting license or habitat stamp. Citations were issued for hunting without permission, hunting over bait and hunting without a license. Several warnings were issued.

CPO Reid cited a deer hunter for hunting without a license.

CPO Reid cited a deer hunter for hunting without permission and for hunting within 100 yards from an inhabited dwelling without permission. The hunter's tree stand was 67 yards from one home and 58 yards from another.

## District 4 – Sgt. Bill Shannon

(Counties: Cook & DuPage)

**COOK COUNTY** 

Nothing reported.

**DUPAGE COUNTY** 

Nothing reported.

LAKE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

# **REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes**

## <u>District 11</u> – Sgt. Brian McReynolds

(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)

#### **CLARK COUNTY**

CPOs Greuel and Wellum investigated information of several dead animals in rural Clark County and arrested a Clark County man for use of poison to kill wildlife, use of a snare, untagged live traps and hunting by use of bait (salt block).

CPO Wellum was patrolling Clark County when he saw a Clark County man he recognized for being a revoked driver. CPO Wellum attempted to stop the subject who fled by vehicle and then fled into the timber on foot. CPO Wellum attempted to locate with assistance from ISP District 12 and Clark County Sheriff's Office. ISP District 12 K9 handler located the subject who resisted arrest and deployed both his K9 and Taser on the subject to take him into custody. CPO Wellum charged the subject with: aggravated fleeing and eluding, reckless driving, driving with revoked license, speeding, no insurance, expired registration and disobeying a traffic control device. Subject was transported to and housed at the Clark County Jail.

#### **COLES COUNTY**

Sgt. McReynolds, CPO Greuel and CPO Wright responded to Moultrie County to assist the Illinois State Police and Moultrie County Sheriff's Office in locating a subject who stole four vehicles while fleeing and eluding police officers. CPO Greuel located the suspect driving the last reported stolen vehicle in Coles County. CPO Greuel attempted to initiate a stop when the driver attempted to flee in a rural area at the west edge of Mattoon. Subject left the roadway and drove through a tilled crop field attempting to elude CPO Greuel who continued the pursuit across the field. After proceeding approximately 1/2 mile through the crop field, the subject failed to reach adequate speed to jump the headwaters of the Little Wabash River. After crashing the subject was taken into custody without further incident. Subject was cited by CPO Greuel for aggravated fleeing and eluding a police officer, speeding in excess of 92 mph in a 55 mph zone, driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs and unlawful possession of a stolen vehicle.

During a Coles County night hunting detail, CPO Barnes and CPO Moody observed a vehicle parked in the roadway. A subsequent traffic stop resulted in the arrest of a Casey subject for possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia.

#### **CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **EDGAR COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Barnes cited two Argenta subjects for hunting without permission of the landowner in Moultrie County.

CPO Moody conducted a boat registration investigation for a Sullivan man.

#### **SHELBY COUNTY**

CPO Greuel and Sgt. McReynolds cited a Shelby County man for unlawful trespass to harvest wild ginseng. Subject was issued a written warning for criminal trespass.

Sgt. McReynolds while patrolling Shelby County located an occupied car on posted private property. The 15 year old male driver from Findlay did not have permission to be on the property. Sgt. McReynolds saw the same male subject driving 10 minutes earlier leaving Opossum Creek boat ramp on Lake Shelbyville. The male was also found to be in possession of tobacco products. The juvenile's parents were called and came to the scene and took custody of him.

## <u>District 19</u> – Sgt. John Williamson

(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)

#### **CHAMPAIGN COUNTY**

CPO Cottrell located at least three individuals unlawfully hunting the rail road tracks in rural Champaign County. During the interview one of the Rantoul men stated that he told the other 2 that hunting the tracks was legal because it was public ground. CPO Cottrell corrected the man and issued 1 citation and 2 written warnings for hunting without permission.

#### **DEWITT COUNTY**

CPOT Ausmus and Sgt. Williamson checked shore fishermen on Clinton Lake. While checking 3 fishermen from Chicago near the railroad bridge 3 short crappie were located in 2 of the buckets. The fishermen stated they didn't know what the limit was, but that they had visited the lake numerous times. When asked if they had any measuring devices they stated they did not. Two citations were issued for illegal take of undersized crappies.

CPOT Ausmus and CPO Viverito identified a Pennsylvania truck that had 2 hunters' windshield cards. During a check of the hunters it was found that both hunters had already checked in antierless deer. (On Clinton Lake SRA hunters are required to shoot a doe before they can shoot a buck.) Two days later CPOT Ausmus and Sgt. Williamson found one of the hunters at their truck and the hunter stated that he killed a doe but his partner had not. After getting both of the hunters together the first hunter admitted that he had not killed a doe and neither had his partner. The second hunter remained steady with his story that he killed a doe. Both hunters were issued citations for the falsification of records.

#### **FORD COUNTY**

While checking a baited stand on a Pheasant Habitat Area, CPOT Ausmus and Sgt. Williamson contacted another bow hunter that was leaving his stand a few minutes after shooting time. When asked why he was leaving his stand so early he stated that he didn't want to spook the deer. CPOT Ausmus and Sgt. Williamson walked with the hunter back to his stand where bait was found. The Paxton man received a citation for hunting deer over bait

#### **IROQUOIS COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **MACON COUNTY**

CPO Wright is investigating a deer that was rifled from a roadway along with multiple hunting without permission complaints.

#### McLEAN COUNTY

CPO Wright and CPO Viverito worked a night hunting detail in McLean County. They observed a vehicle using a spotlight on both sides of the vehicle. During the traffic stop two Congerville men were found in possession of 2 rifles (one loaded). Both subjects admitted to night hunting but had not shot anything that night. Multiple citations were issued.

#### PIATT COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **VERMILION COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

OTHER: McLean-DeWitt - CPO Graden, CPOT Ausmus and Sgt. Williamson assisted with two special disabled hunts. CPO Graden helps plan and guide for the HOOAH Hunt that takes place in McLean County. All three officers assisted Clinton Lake SRA Staff with a state sponsored handicap hunt that is in the area.

# **REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul**

# <u>District 9</u> – Sgt. Mark Wagner

(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike & Schuyler)

#### **ADAMS COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **BROWN COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **CALHOUN COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **GREENE COUNTY**

CPO Goetten observed a vehicle parked in the road for an extended period of time in Greene County. Upon leaving the area, CPO Goetten initiated a traffic stop. A buck was observed in the truck bed. It was tagged with a permit belonging to another hunter. He admitted to the illegal harvest. The buck was seized and the meat was donated to the Sportsmen Against Hunger program.

CPO Goetten investigated a hunting accident in Greene County. A subject fell approximately 20 feet after a strap broke on the ladder. The subject had injuries to his face and back.

CPO Gushleff investigated a hunting accident in Greene County. The subject fell 12-15 feet from a ladder stand when he lost his footing. The subject had 9 broken vertebrae, broken collarbone, and his spleen was removed.

#### HANCOCK COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **JERSEY COUNTY**

CPO Goetten investigated the unlawful take of a large buck in Jersey County. A subject shot the buck from the roadway on private property. The subject was located and arrested. The buck and the subject's bow were seized. The meat was donated to the Sportsmen Against Hunger Program.

Sgt. Wagner assisted Jersey County at a disturbance with several subjects. Sgt. Wagner kept the scene secure while the deputy interviewed several subjects. One subject was arrested for trespass to real property.

Sgt. Wagner assisted Jersey County with a personal injury traffic accident north of Pere Marquette State Park and was first on the scene. One vehicle travelling at least 55 MPH hit a vehicle that was stationary waiting to turn. The stationary vehicle had six people in it. Three were treated and released at the scene. Three were transported to the hospital.

#### MACOUPIN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### PIKE COUNTY

CPOs Weishaupt and Blakeley checked baited property in Pike County. The property manager/guide of an outfitter was aware of the bait and didn't remove it. It was baited with Trophy Rocks at five locations. A couple of other locations had the bait holes. A bale blind was found baited with ear corn. The guide admitted to placing corn in front of bale blind. The owner of the property was found with an uncased bow on an UTV.

CPO Weishaupt investigated a hunting accident in Pike County. The subject was climbing up a tree on a climbing stick to get into a stand. At approximately 10 feet, his boot slipped off of step. He fell to ground. The subject was transported to Illini Hospital in Pittsfield. He was then transferred to St. Johns Hospital in Springfield. He suffered cracked ribs and his pelvis was cracked on both sides.

#### **SCHUYLER COUNTY**

CPO Blakeley checked baited property in Schuyler County. A hunter was hunting between two bait holes. The hunter admitted to buying minerals and dumping them in the holes.

OTHER: McDonough County – CPO Wheatley interviewed an Avon man regarding a hunting accident. The man was hunting in McDonough County. He was climbing into his deer stand when the strap holding the stand to the tree broke. The man fell 15 feet resulting in a broken leg. The man was not wearing a safety harness.

## <u>District 10</u> – Sgt. Chris Stone

(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)

#### **CASS COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Cochran attended a Wetlands Nature Trailer Field Trip with Mrs. Cathy Schaeffer's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class from St. Mary's School in Taylorville. Nine young minds were in attendance to learn about the flora and fauna of the wetlands habitat in Central Illinois.

CPO Cochran conducted a nighttime shining detail in Christian County. While conducting the detail a subject approached the target area in his pick-up down a country gravel road nearby the CPOs staging area. When the subject approached the field he slammed on his brakes, backed up, and went back the way he came. After about 5 minutes the subject returned, approached the target area in his vehicle, turned his vehicle broadside the field, stuck a flashlight out the window, shined the area, and took off. CPO Cochran conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle to reveal an uncased crossbow in the backseat and a flashlight. The subject was cited for shining and having an uncased bow in his vehicle.

CPO Bettis presented the Law Enforcement Section of a Hunter Safety Course in Christian County to 20 students.

CPO Swance presented the Law Enforcement Section of a Hunter Safety Course in Christian County to 40 students.

#### LOGAN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### MASON COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **MENARD COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **MORGAN COUNTY**

CPO Wichern issued two subjects citations for placement of deer bait.

CPO Bettis issued a citation to a subject for unlawfully taking a Canada goose during closed season.

## SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Swance and CPOT Snodgrass responded to a hunting without permission complaint in Sangamon County. The landowner complained of shooting onto her property. The officers found several tree stands that had been baited with liquid bait, corn, apples and grain blocks. While gathering photos and evidence, the officers located the hunter. The hunter admitted to placing and hunting over the bait. He was also in possession of landowner permits he was not qualified for. He had not purchased a required hunting license or habitat stamp. Citations and written warnings were issued. The hunter who was cited previously for the same issues now has a court date.

#### **SCOTT COUNTY**

CPO Bettis presented the Law Enforcement Section of a Hunter Safety Course in Scott County to 60 students.

## <u>District 13</u> – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

## **BOND COUNTY**

Nothing reported

#### **CLINTON COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### MADISON COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### MONROE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CPO Matt Lentz attended a 40 hr. Wildland Fire Firefighter Investigation Class at Pere Marquette State Park.

CPO Matt Lentz issued a Litchfield subject a citation for failure to tag his deer immediately upon kill.

CPO Matt Lentz conducted one timber truck inspection.

#### **RANDOLPH COUNTY**

CPO Ralph Sievers attended and presented at the Red Bud High School Career Day. CPO Sievers discussed the process to get hired and the duties of a Conservation Police Office to a 75 students.

CPO Ralph Sievers collected an eagle carcass that was found on Peabody Coal property. Only the feathers and bones remained.

CPO Ralph Sievers observed two vehicle accidents along a county road near Steeleville. The Randolph County Sheriff's Office did not have an available deputy and the Illinois State Police did not have a trooper in Randolph County. CPO Sievers completed the traffic crash report. As CPO Sievers was leaving the scene, he heard on the radio that another two vehicle crash had occurred on a state highway near Red Bud which had a person ejected from one of the vehicles. CPO Sievers responded to that location and directed traffic.

#### ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Ray was contacted by CPO Weishaupt in reference to a complaint pertaining to a St. Clair County resident archery deer hunting in Pere Marquette State Park. The subject was arrested for hunting a restricted area prior to posted opening date and failing to report harvest by 10:00 p.m.

CPO Rolfingsmeier received a tip about a deer hunter hunting over bait at Peabody River King Fish and Wildlife area. CPO Rolfingsmeier was able to locate the hunter and found an area that was baited with mineral. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting over bait.

#### WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Charles received information of an endangered/missing person with her two year old son on the Randolph/St Clair County line area. CPO Charles arrived in the area at around 4:00 p.m. and coordinated with local search and rescue teams on the ground to assist in the effort to locate the missing pair. The search included multiple K9 search teams, a

helicopter and State Police air operations looking for the missing individuals. A K9 search team located the missing individuals at approximately 8:45 p.m., very cold but alert. CPO Charles assisted on scene by leading the ambulance to the area where the individuals were found. They were transported to the nearest hospital for treatment.

# **REGION 5 – Captain Tim Daiber**

## <u>District 14</u> – Sgt. Jeff Cariens

(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Perry, Pope, Saline, White)

#### FRANKLIN COUNTY

CPO Lay investigated a hunting accident this reporting period. An archery deer hunter fell approximately 12 feet out of his tree stand while hunting the Rend Lake property. The hunter suffered several injuries and was transported via ambulance to the hospital.

#### GALLATIN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### HAMILTON COUNTY

In early spring of 2016, CPO Folden removed multiple deer stands left unlawfully in Hamilton County Conservation Area. In mid-October 2016 a subject contacted CPO Folden and told him his deer stand was gone and asked CPO Folden if he could get it back. The subject described the deer stands which were logged as abandoned property. CPO Folden returned the deer stand and issued a citation for the violation of the administrative rule requiring the stands be removed by January 31st each year.

CPO Folden located a vehicle owned by a past customer with revoked wildlife privileges. CPO Folden utilized an officer from Mcleansboro Police Department to drop him off in the location from a plain vehicle. Shortly after the end of hunting hours CPO Folden located the hunter walking toward his location. CPO Folden viewed the hunter using night vision and an infrared illuminator. The subject was carrying a bow with the release on his wrist and other hunting equipment. CPO Folden confronted the subject, identified him as the revoked hunter, placed him in handcuffs and called for a transport. The subject was issued a citation for hunting while revoked/suspended, no hunting license, no deer permit, and a written warning for no habitat stamp. CPO Folden seized all of the hunting equipment being used.

#### HARDIN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY

The opening day of duck season at Rend Lake, Sgt. Cariens and CPO Folden worked the Big Muddy sub-impoundment. Six citations and one written warning for hunting waterfowl within 200 yards of another hunting group, one citation for hunting with an unplugged shotgun and three written warnings for waterfowl stamp violations were issued. While taking the boat back to storage, Sgt. Cariens was given a tip of an illegal deer dumping at Genevo's Bay. Sgt. Cariens verified the dumping and CPO Folden located the vehicle. The person responsible was issued a citation for the dumping and written warning for a related tagging violation by CPO Diggins.

CPO Folden tracked down the remaining subject of a driving off road complaint on Rend Lake WMA. A citation was issued.

CPO Folden located several baited stands on private property in Jefferson County. CPO Folden was notified by Sgt. Cariens of a truck parked in the violators known parking location. CPO Folden did not locate the subject on a baited

stand but the subject admitted to hunting in the baited stands earlier in the archery season. CPO Folden issued a citation for hunting over bait and a written warning for unlawful placement of bait for deer.

CPO Lay issued a citation and a warning to two individuals fishing at Rend Lake. One of the fishermen was warned for possession of a short bass (released alive back into the lake), and the other fisherman was issued a citation for fishing without a license.

CPO Folden investigated information forwarded by CPO Lay alleging a group of Alabama hunters hunting unlawfully in Wayne Fitzgerrel State Park. CPO Folden located the hunters at a nearby hotel at night while they were drinking beer. CPO Folden stopped and asked the hunters how the week had been. They admitted to being successful and showed CPO Folden 3 large bucks which were all tagged and confirmed. CPO Folden left the location and continued to investigate using his computer. CPO Folden noticed a pattern of antlerless only permit purchases along with some photographs of antlered deer on the subject's Facebook pages. CPO Folden and CPO Lay went back to the hunter's location later in the week and conducted interviews. The interviews resulted in one subject being cited for unlawfully taking an 8 point buck, hunting without a deer permit, hunting without a hunting license, and a written warning for hunting without a habitat stamp. Two other subjects were issues one citation each for failure to report harvest as required.

#### PERRY COUNTY

CPO Lay completed a boat registration inspection for a Perry County boat owner, whom had restored a boat with no prior registration or hull identification numbers.

#### POPE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **SALINE COUNTY**

CPO Diggins taught the safety portion of a Hunter Safety class.

#### WHITE COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff issued two citations for uncased bows.

OTHER: Edwards County: CPO Schoenhoff taught the safety portion of a hunter safety class.

## District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt

(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash & Wayne)

#### **CLAY COUNTY**

CPO Smith assisted Flora Police Department in a domestic disturbance. CPO Smith arrived at the scene and helped deescalate the situation. CPO Smith and the Flora police officer separated the two individuals involved in the argument and talked to them individually. The situation was resolved by CPO Smith and the Flora police officer with no arrest made.

#### **CRAWFORD COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **EDWARDS COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **EFFINGHAM COUNTY**

CPO Smith cited a group of hunters at Wildcat Hollow for unlawfully camping after finding their campsite and in addition 5 warnings were issued.

#### **FAYETTE COUNTY**

CPO Compton cited two Alabama hunters for the placement of corn around their tree stands. The hunters were hunting on property leased by Base Camp Leasing.

CPO Compton and CPO Roper received a complaint of a whitetail deer that had been poached in Fayette County. Upon investigation, the CPOs discovered several violations. The meat from the deer was seized. A citation for unlawful take of whitetail deer and a citation for wanton waste of whitetail deer were issued. Two Written Warnings were also issued.

#### JASPER COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### LAWRENCE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

## **MARION COUNTY**

CPO Smith cited an Indiana subject for deer hunting without a hunting license. The subject was hunting on property leased by Base Camp Leasing.

#### RICHLAND COUNTY

Nothing reported.

#### **WABASH COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **WAYNE COUNTY**

CPO Buhnerkempe, CPO Compton, CPO Smith, and CPO Roper conducted a takedown on several non-resident and resident hunters. Upon arrival at the rural residence in Marion County, the CPOs discovered two illegally harvested doe deer. After interviewing several subjects involved in the case, the CPOs discovered a multitude of whitetail deer poaching violations from the years of 2009-2016. All violations occurred in Marion and Wayne Counties. Charges are pending in this case to be filed at a later date. An 18 point whitetail buck rack was seized in the case from a local taxidermist.

## <u>District 16</u> – Sgt. Kris Taylor

(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)

#### **ALEXANDER COUNTY**

A Missouri subject arrested by CPO Vasicek during the 2015 firearm season for possessing multiple loaded high powered rifles on an ATV and unlawful hunting with center fire rifles paid \$500.00 and forfeited a 30-30 and a .270 caliber rifle as part of the agreement.

#### JACKSON COUNTY

CPO Mohrman attended a trapper education class held at the Giant City State Park visitor center. CPO Mohrman reviewed trapping laws with the class and discussed some of the new hunting regulations.

While working a patrol around Kinkaid Lake CPO Mohrman located a large group of college students illegally camping. The students were taking advantage of the Veteran's Day holiday to campout in the fish and wildlife area much to the dissatisfaction of the deer hunters out on this day. In prior years this has been a problem with a lot of trash left behind by the unlawful camps. The students broke camp and completely cleaned up where they had been. Citations were issued for the illegal camp and for having a massive bonfire on the ground. Several warnings to the students were also issued.

CPO Mohrman reunited a bowhunter with his bow after it fell out of his truck. A Jackson County resident near Route 3 located the PSE bow near the state highway and contacted the CPO. Upon picking the bow up from the concerned resident a flyer was found with the name and phone number of the subject who lost the bow. The bowhunter explained to CPO Mohrman he inadvertently left his bow on top of his truck toolbox when he headed home from his hunt. He was very happy to get his bow back and was at the bow shop pricing a new one when the CPO called him.

#### JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Thompson charged two subjects with transporting uncased, operable bow and arrow devices.

CPO Thompson issued two subjects written warnings for hunting licensing violations.

CPO Thompson issued a written warning to a subject for ATV operation on the roadway.

#### MASSAC COUNTY

CPO Somers cited two Tennessee men for deer hunting by the aid/use of bait and unlawful transport of uncased bows on an ATV in Massac County.

CPO Somers observed a truck driving at a slow rate of speed and an occupant using a flashlight to illuminate deer in rural northeast Massac County. He continued to observe the vehicle traveling at a slow rate of speed into Pope County. The driver used a spotlight to illuminate deer from the truck after stopping in the roadway. The passenger shot from the truck at which time the truck left at a high rate of speed. He conducted a traffic stop and found an AR-15 with a homemade silencer attached and a spent .223 casing in the truck. The driver and passenger were arrested and the AR-15 was seized. Both subjects were charged with several violations. After transporting the subjects to the Massac County jail he was able to find and identify the deer that had been unlawfully taken for evidence

#### **PERRY COUNTY**

CPO Lewis attended a Hunter's Safety Class at the Du Quoin Middle School. It was a large class of 8th grade students.

CPO Lewis located a vehicle parked in the closed waterfowl rest area at Pyramid State Park. The vehicle contained multiple items which would be used for bowhunting so it was assumed the owner of the vehicle was hunting in the restricted area. An investigation revealed there were in fact two Florida residents bowhunting in the rest area. A hunter compliance check determined they did not possess hunting licenses, habitat stamps, windshield cards, did not have their deer permits in possession as required and had been driving off the roadway while scouting the area. The hunters were issued citations for hunting without licenses and written warnings for the other violations.

CPO Lewis assisted the Perry County Sheriff's Department and Illinois State Police with a traffic crash investigation near Du Quoin. The investigation determined a driver attempted to pass a semi-truck on Route 14. While passing, the driver collided with the fuel tank of the semi causing a fuel leak. The driver of the car was charged with DUI. In addition to the

DUI arrest, two of the friends were charged with obstruction of justice because the investigation revealed they lied to the investigating officers about the events causing the crash. Route 14 was closed for several hours due to the fuel spill.

#### **PULASKI COUNTY**

Nothing reported.

#### **UNION COUNTY**

CPO Vasicek assisted with the capture of a Johnson County man who had kicked the door in at a motel in Jonesboro and feloniously battered two people inside including a pregnant woman.

CPO Vasicek located and charged an Arkansas subject with hunting deer without consent on landowner.

CPO Vasicek with the assistance of U.S. Forest Service Officer Harris investigated and arrested two subjects from Mississippi who were deer hunting without any licenses or permits. These subjects were also using unlawful methods to take deer. Seizures included a .243 rifle, 12 gauge shotgun with buckshot, Glock 40 caliber pistol, and a compound bow.

#### WILLIAMSON COUNTY

What was thought to be a dumping complaint turned into a recovery of stolen property for CPO Mohrman and CPOT Knop. A Williamson County landowner discovered household and personal items dumped on a field road and provided the officers with a name and address from checks recovered at the dump site. Upon meeting with the subject whose checks were recovered it was learned that all the items dumped on this property were from a vehicle stolen from the subject. Unfortunately this was just some of the items from the subject's stolen vehicle and many tools and a generator are still missing. The officers were able to return a bread maker and "Best Of" George Jones CD which brought a bit of a smile to the subject.